To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 712 without my signature.

I am concerned about housing affordability in this state and the need to meet the housing demands of Californians. Our local government partners have an important role and tremendous responsibilities in the process.

Providing incentives for third parties to sue local governments over housing decisions, as provided in this bill, is inappropriate and does not build any additional housing. The threat of lawsuits diminishes flexibility and creativity when designing a community, and lawsuits divert valuable tax dollars that could be used by local governments.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger